

~~SECRET~~ VIRSKYI'S BALLET IN PARIS

Subject: VIRSKYI, Anatoli Ivanovich of Kiev

Source: 1

Date: 10 Feb 1965

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCESMETHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Subject was introduced to Source by Volodymyr SEL...., an employee of the Ministry of Culture, Kiev on 26 Nov 1964 in the wardrobe, Palais des Sports, Paris. Next day they met in the lobby of hotel and went for a longer walk along the Seine bank.

Subject is Ukrainian, aged 45-50, grey hair, pale face, looks sickly, very friendly, intelligent, philologist, employee of the Ministry of Culture of Ukr SSR in Kiev, speaks very fine Ukrainian. Selfassured, had full freedom of movements, for two weeks had left Paris and was travelling somewhere around; generally respected.

Subject was on friendly terms with VIRSKYI and there was a mutual respect between them. Subject contributes to several Ukrainian magazines, among them also to Shvchenko.

2. The talk on the Seine-bank. Subject knew that Source was from "Sachschist" and he was quite familiar with the magazine. "Your journal is ~~xxxxxxxx~~ well known, continue to write so as you have done still now - he said - of course, you have to write also about other things..." "We know you are under attack of your and foreign people." "Your situation is not easy, we understand you". "But we ask you, we beg you, when you are printing our authors, don't publish only young ones, publish them all, also other authors..." "Also don't restrict yourself to publishing only bad articles that appear in our press, write also about good things". "Give full picture of Ukraine". "Don't make selections that might harm people".

About young Ukrainian writers and poets: "They are good, cultured, talented people... But they should not walk around in Kiev and shout, 'We are writing by the abroad'. They haven't deserved it either. In 1920's there were Paliashchuk, Bohomolko, Vlyz'ko and others. They were writing the same or in those today..."

VIRSKYI was not reported. He went to Moscow, just recently came from there, has fit a play and they are discussing it now in Kiev.

DSTUSA was not put into central asylum either. Subject knows that the Board of the Union of Writers has been giving CHUBA free hospitalization, and he lives healthy in Kiev. SR/BS dated 8 March 1965

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Globus

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VIKHRAHOVSKYI lives in Kiev, he is somewhat sick, but nothing bad happened to him.

About the arson in the National Library in Kiev : It's a very painful affair for everybody. There were burned very valuable materials, it was said, also things of which no duplicates existed. And what is the value of people who do not even have their own historical records? There is no need to talk about it.

On Khrushchev's removal : It was done by the party, to be more precise by the Central Committee once they decided to work and rule collectively. The removal does not mean a return to Stalinism. The latter will never return.

In this occasion Subject talked of his one-time full loyalty and faith into Stalin, how he fought for Stalin, for leadership in the Kremlin, for his homeland, risked his life, ruined his health, fought for better future etc. And at the same time there was in the Kremlin Stalin, ^Agang, clique, bandits who were murdering innocent people.

When Source pointed out that only after a complete removal of the Soviet system and under a government controlled by the people, things could really change, Subject did not oppose but listened carefully.

In general he gave impression of a disillusioned communist who lost his faith into the Soviet system but had not enough courage to draw all the logical conclusions, and break with it.

3. Subject responded positively to Source's suggestion to start a dialogue between emigration and Ukraine in magazines and thought that Vitchyzna or Vsesvit would be most suitable. He will talk about it with his friends in Kiev and suggested that it would be a good idea to write a letter to the Union of Ukrainian Writers in Kiev. When Source replied that this was impossible (the letter), Subject said that he understood "the difficult situation", they know it in Kiev, so they will think ^{of} something to be done.

4. Subject was given David Prav Ukrayiny, Metropolita Andrija, the book by Leo Tolstoy, to send him by mail to the Union of Writers in Kiev, or to VIKHRAHOVSKYI or Zhovten a book about Jews onto it was published in Canada and sold outside Gal. He wanted also to have a copy for Ukrayina, it was sent to authors in Ukraine.

Subject: Volodymyr SELINSKYI?

/Source is not sure as to last name of the Subject/

Source: Sl

Date: 10 Feb 1965

1. Subject was introduced to Source by UDENKO-DUBOVENKO Volodymyr torer or with UDENKO, one of Ballet Directors on 25 Nov 1964 at the Palais Sports in Paris during the performance. Subject is an employee of the Ministry of Culture of Ukr SSR in Kiev and as such accompanied the Ballet o Virskyi.

His physical description: aged 35, 5'5, dark blond, large blue eyes, talkable.

Subject speaks very fine Ukrainian, alert, quite intelligent, self-assured, and sociable.

2. In conversation Subject tried to be very friendly, did not mind discussing political topics but tried to avoid "an lessent ones" like, for instance, 20th, 21st, and 22nd Congresses of the CP SU, Russification, KGB. He knows personally SEMISCHSTNY - "from Komsomol". One of his friends is PAVLYCZKO, Dmytro, Ukrainian writer. Subject also heard that PIDSUKHA had brought from Canada "Suchasnist", all publications of "Prolog", and other books. Subject himself read "Suchasnist", mainly articles on economic problems.

It was given by Source "Pravda Lobsaria", two volumes of Kosheliv and "Suchasnist". Subject was interested in "Suchasnist", who were the editors, how many readers it had, what was the function of Source in "Suchasnist", when had he left Ukraine, where were his parents and other personal data.

As an official of the Ministry of Culture Subject handles the student-exchange and cultural exchange in general. He also writes from time to time to "Mladost ukraine".

3. According to Subject, the Minister of Culture in Kiev is quite interested in "Suchasnist" and people around him and that they were discussing abolition of Solzhenitsyn and Solzhenitsyn in "Suchasnist". "Why actually are you doing that?" - Subject asked - they (meanind the rest of emigration) will attack you for that, we were talking about it too".

4. When discussing political topics Subject reiterated generally that Virskyi when Aug returned ^{file} Big here

known argumentation running along the line "things are getting better, no official classification, Stalin was responsible for everything, come to Ukraine and see with your own eyes" etc.

5. Subject introduced Source to SHCHYRBA Anatoli Ivanovich, and also gave Source the address of the hotel at which Ajav-Millet was to be accommodated.

6. Asked why "ECHO Chernobyl" by Belaev and Podolanin was printed in such a great number, Subject replied, "The topic, dear Friend, the topic ... though I haven't read it myself".